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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/674,255

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Yuichi Iwase

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EXAMINER

HON, SOW FUN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1794

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/674,255

Applicant(s)

IWASE, YUICHI

Examiner

SOPHIE HON

Art Unit

1794

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10/15/08.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 6 and 15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 6, 15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CDC)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Withdrawn Rejections

1. The 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejections of claims 1-3, 6 over Okazaki in view of Sekiguchi as the primary combination of references, are withdrawn due to Applicant's amendment dated 10/15/08.

New Rejections

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

2. Claims 1-3, 6, 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okazaki (US 5,670,797) in view of Sekiguchi (US 6,771,327), Siwinski (US 6,814,642) and Clock (US 3,305,745).

Regarding claim 1, Okazaki teaches a display panel (column 1, lines 5-12) including a substrate (17, column 6, lines 43-45) on which a plurality of display devices are formed (light-emitting devices having one or a plurality of LED chips, column 3, lines 48-51, two LED chips, Embodiment 2, column 10, lines 59-67, column 11, line 1, Fig. 7) as defined in Applicant's specification (light emitting devices 10R, 10G, 10B, Specification, page 14, first paragraph, Fig. 4A). Okazaki teaches a protective film formed directly on both the substrate for protecting the plurality of display devices (LED chip 14 on the substrate 17 are sealed by a light-transmitting resin 16, column 6, lines

43-47, light-emitting devices having one or a plurality of LED chips, column 3, lines 48-51). Okazaki fails to teach a display unit that combines the display panel with a flexible touch panel which (a) is composed of plastic films, (b) is directly bonded to a whole face of the display panel with an adhesive layer in between, and (c) detects contact with a suitable contact element thereon, wherein the adhesive is in direct contact with both the protective film and one of the plastic films.

However, Sekiguchi teaches a display unit (portable information equipment, column 8, line 40) comprising: a display panel (4, column 8, lines 39-40, Fig.4) including a substrate (6, column 8, lines 47-48, Fig.4) on which a display device is formed (with the input panel attached thereto, column 3, lines 19-20, Fig.4); combined with a touch panel for the purpose of providing the desired interactive input (column 1, lines 35-45), wherein the touch panel (a) is composed of plastic films (lower substrate 26 of touch panel 3, made up of a polyethyl sulfonate film, column 9, lines 15-17, upper substrate 21 disposed opposite lower substrate 26, is a plastic substrate made up of a film, column 9, lines 42-44), which renders the touch panel flexible, and where the flexible touch panel (b) is directly bonded to a whole face of the display panel (there exists no air between lower substrate 26 of the touch panel 3 and the first substrate 1 of the display panel 4, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig.4) with an adhesive layer in between (44, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig.4), for the purpose of preventing reflection at the interfaces therebetween (column 12, lines 19-26) and (c) detects contact with a suitable contact element thereon (input pen 80 onto the touch panel, such input information is recognized by a detection circuit, column 8, lines 1-6).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to have combined the display panel of Okazaki with a flexible touch panel to provide a display unit that has the desired interactive input, and where the flexible touch panel (a) is composed of plastic films, c) detects contact with a suitable contact element thereon, and (b) is directly bonded to a whole face of the display panel with an adhesive layer in between, wherein the adhesive layer is in direct contact with both the protective film of the display panel of Okazaki and one of the plastic films of the flexible touch panel, in order to prevent reflection at the interfaces therebetween, as taught by Sekiguchi.

In addition, Okazaki teaches that the display device is a light emitting device (column 1, lines 10-12), but is silent regarding the type of light emitting device, and thus fails to teach that each of the plurality of display devices is a light emitting device that has an organic emitting layer, where the protective film seals the organic emitting layer.

However, Siwinski teaches that a common display unit comprises a display panel in combination with a touch panel (touch screen, column 1, lines 20-25), an organic light emitting diode display panel which contains organic light emitting devices, as defined by Applicant, formed on a substrate (OLED flat panel display 49, light-emitting elements 52, substrate 50, column 2, lines 58-67) in place of a liquid crystal display (column 1, lines 20-25). Siwinski teaches that the organic light emitting devices each have an organic light emitting layer (organic light emitter 58, column 2, lines 65-66, Fig. 7).

Therefore, since Okazaki is silent regarding the type of light emitting device, it would have been necessary and hence obvious to have looked to the prior art for a

suitable type. As such, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to have used a plurality of organic light emitting devices as the plurality of light emitting devices in the display panel of Okazaki, where each of the plurality of light emitting devices has an organic emitting layer such that the protective film seals the organic layer, in order to obtain the desired display unit, as taught by Siwinski.

Furthermore, Okazaki fails to teach that the protective film includes at least inorganic material.

However, Clock teaches that the protective film of a light-emitting device (electroluminescent panel, column 2, lines 61-71) should further include at least inorganic material for the purpose of providing improved moisture protection (glass, column 5, lines 10-20).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to have included at least inorganic material in the protective film of the display panel of Okazaki, in order to obtain improved moisture protection for the plurality of light emitting display devices, as taught by Clock.

Regarding claim 2, Sekiguchi teaches that the touch panel is provided on a side where the display device of the substrate is formed and the display device is sealed by the touch panel, since the touch panel is directly bonded to a whole face of the display panel (there exists no air between lower substrate 26 of the touch panel 3 and the first substrate 1 of the display panel 4, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig.4), as defined by Applicant's specification (page 18, last paragraph, page 19, first paragraph, Figure 8),

for the purpose of preventing reflection at the interfaces therebetween (column 12, lines 19-26).

Regarding claim 3, Sekiguchi teaches that the touch panel has a structure wherein two plastic films (lower substrate 26 of touch panel 3, made up of a polyethyl sulfonate film, column 9, lines 15-17, upper substrate 21 disposed opposite lower substrate 26, is a plastic substrate made up of a film, column 9, lines 42-44, Fig. 7) in which respective transparent electrodes are formed (lower electrodes 27 made of transparent conductive film, column 9, lines 15-20, upper electrodes 22 made up of transparent conductive film, column 9, lines 42-48, Fig. 7) are layered so that the transparent electrodes are placed opposite each other (upper substrate 21 disposed opposite lower substrate 26, column 9, lines 42-48, Fig. 7), for the purpose of providing the desired flexible touch panel.

Regarding claim 6, Siwinski teaches that the organic emitting layer of the organic light emitting device includes a light emitting layer (organic light emitter 58, column 2, lines 65-66) between a first electrode (metal cathode layer 62, column 2, line 67), and a second electrode (voltage applied by a voltage source 64 across light emitting elements 52, via cable 67, column 2, line 67, column 3, lines 1-3, Fig. 5) such that the organic light emitting device extracts the lights generated in the light emitting layer from the second electrode side (voltage applied by a voltage source 64 across light emitting elements 52, via cable 67, column 2, line 67, column 3, lines 1-3, Fig. 5), for the purpose of providing the desired light emitting display.

Regarding claim 15, Sekiguchi teaches that the suitable contact element for the flexible touch panel is a finger (input is provided from the surface of the polarizer 45 as the viewer touches the polarizer, column 12, lines 5-10, Fig.4), or a pen (input pen 80 onto the touch panel, such input information is recognized by a detection circuit, column 8, lines 1-6) for the purpose of providing the desired touch utility.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Sow-Fun Hon whose telephone number is (571)272-1492. The examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Keith Hendricks, can be reached on (571)272-1401. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Sophie Hon/
Examiner, Art Unit 1794

/KEITH D. HENDRICKS/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1794